

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION X

1200 SIXTH AVENUE
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101



REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

M/S 524

DEC 1 1983

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Subject: Meeting of Generators, Transporters, Owners and Operators of the
Western Processing Company Inc. Site

Dear Sir or Madam:

You have previously been notified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that you and other responsible parties are potentially liable for all costs of removal and remedial actions and response costs related to the Western Processing Company Inc. (Western Processing) site. In addition, you may be liable for damages to natural resources. These liabilities are joint and several for all responsible parties. EPA has identified and provided this notice to more than three hundred parties who (1) generated hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants sent to the site, (2) transported hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants to the site, or (3) owned or operated the site.

EPA has reviewed the responses of such persons and finds that negotiations with responsible parties might result in an abatement of releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants associated with the site, and the settlement of claims for costs of removal or remedial or investigative actions previously incurred or to be taken by EPA or the State of Washington. Accordingly, you are invited to a meeting of all potentially responsible parties on Wednesday, January 11, 1984. EPA, the United States Department Justice and the State of Washington will conduct the meeting at the Rainier Room in the Northwest Rooms of Seattle Center, Seattle, Washington. Directions to the meeting site are enclosed. Presentations will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m.. You should plan to be registered and seated by that time.

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The January 11 meeting is intended to provide information about Western Processing to potentially responsible parties, and to encourage negotiations leading to a cleanup of the site and reimbursement for costs already incurred by the United States and the State of Washington. As indicated on the enclosed agenda, the meeting will begin with technical and legal presentations by government representatives. The Rainier Room has been reserved for the entire day. After the presentations are completed, the potentially responsible parties are encouraged to use this opportunity to confer among themselves.

For the purpose of facilitating any future negotiations, enclosed is a fact sheet which describes the Western Processing site and the response actions which have been taken there. Also enclosed is a list of generators and transporters associated with the site. This list is being provided to all potentially responsible parties included on the list and to members of the public who request it. This list was compiled primarily from records maintained by the site owners/operators and from the responses to EPA's information request letters. This list is not intended to reflect a final determination of individual liability, and is subject to revision.

EPA, the United States Department of Justice and the State of Washington are requesting that you and the other parties named on the list form a small principal negotiating committee, one member of which will act as the spokesperson for the committee. Given the number of parties to this matter, the governments' representatives will conduct further negotiations only with the members of the principal committee. We have no objection to the formation of subcommittees for the purpose of advising and consulting with the principal committee.

In the event that the potentially responsible parties are unable to agree upon appropriate representatives along the lines suggested above, or in the event government representatives conclude that there is little likelihood of successful negotiations for other reasons, the United States and the State of Washington reserve their right to proceed directly to litigation or to conduct further site clean-up followed by litigation.

Also enclosed is an affidavit to be signed by a duly authorized corporate officer or other authorized party which states that your firm has made a diligent search of its records and has transmitted to EPA all information requested in EPA's previous letter. Upon EPA's receipt of this signed affidavit, you will be provided by mail with a preliminary computer printout listing the deliveries to Western Processing or other information which form the basis for the Government's assertion that you are a responsible party under CERCLA.

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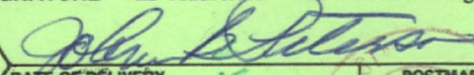
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P 492 762 202

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3. If you want a return receipt, write the certified-mail number and your name and address on a return receipt card, Form 3811, and attach it to the front of the article by means of the gummed ends if space permits. Otherwise, affix to back of article. Endorse front of article **RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED** adjacent to the number.
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5. Enter fees for the services requested in the appropriate spaces on the front of this receipt. If return receipt is requested, check the applicable blocks in Item 1 of Form 3811.
6. Save this receipt and present it if you make inquiry.

Finally, enclosed is a copy of a report prepared by EPA titled Investigation of Soil and Water Contamination at Western Processing, King County, Washington, September to November 1982. The report documents extensive soil and groundwater contamination at the site. A summary of the report will be presented at the January 11, 1984 meeting.

Previously submitted written questions selected on the basis of general application will be answered at the meeting. Please submit any questions no later than December 21, 1983 to:

Mr. David Tetta, M/S 524
U. S Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101.

Questions solely regarding the content of this letter may be directed to Mr. Tetta at (206) 442-1886.

Due to room size, we would appreciate your limiting your representation to three individuals. Please call Loretta Hrin at (206) 442-1090 by January 6, 1984 to identify your representatives. Admission will be restricted to those so identified.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

 Ernesta B. Barnes

Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Donald W. Moos
Director
Washington Department of
Ecology

Enclosures:

Fact Sheet
Agenda
Printout of Potentially Responsible Parties
Affidavit
Report
Directions to Meeting Site